



Permitting Procedures – Regulations and Permitting Workgroup

Objective:

Identify impediments related to permitting a recycled water project.

Background:

- Various existing legislative sections address permitting.
- Timeliness of review minimally addressed
- Local land use and Building Department authority exemptions

Recycled Water Task Force
November 19, 2002
Page 1



Permitting Procedures – Regulations and Permitting Workgroup

Previous Related Work:

- Establish Policy guidelines – DHS “Purple Book”
- Regional Boards streamline review process – practices improved but not applied uniformly
- Increase DHS staffing – legislative change
- Streamline SRF loan funding process – continuously improving
- Local health agency staffing – general improvement

Recycled Water Task Force
November 19, 2002
Page 2



Permitting Procedures – Regulations and Permitting Workgroup

Recent Site Specific Examples:

- Local permitting of recycled water storage tank
- General coordination and timing issues
- User commitments exceed potable water

Recycled Water Task Force
November 19, 2002
Page 3



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Preliminary Recommendations:

- Continue updates of DHS “Purple Book”
- Clarify local land use and planning exemptions for recycled water projects
- Clarify requirements for Engineering Reports
- Provide State and Local tax incentives - offset cost of using recycled water
- The RWQCB’s should:
 - be more involved in early project stages
 - assign experts to expedite review and provide consistency
 - concurrently develop basin plans while permitting
- The SWRCB should increase oversight of RWQCB’s in recycling matters

Recycled Water Task Force
November 19, 2002
Page 4